



Walking your dog in the city's streets, parks and gardens

Under Victoria's Domestic Animals Act 1994, dogs in all public areas within the municipality are required to:

- wear a current registration tag;
- be kept under control by means of a chain, cord or leash which is held by the owner and not more than three metres long (unless in an area that is specifically designated 'dogs prohibited' or 'dogs off-leash') and;
- not threaten, chase, rush at or attack any person or animal.

The City of Melbourne's park rangers, compliance officers and animal management officers patrol public areas and provide education regarding pets in public places. These officers are authorised to give instructions, ask for owners' names and addresses and issue penalty notices for contravention of the City of Melbourne's local laws and the Domestic Animals Act 1994.

Don't forget if you own a Greyhound, they must be on leash and muzzled at all times. Exception applies to GAP dogs wearing a green GAP collar where a muzzle is not required.



Do you have a question for the City of Melbourne?

Contacts

Phone: 03 9658 9658 (7.30am to 6pm)

Website: www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/contactus

National Relay Service: If you are deaf, hearing impaired, or speech-impaired, call us via the National Relay Service: Teletypewriter (TTY) users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 03 9658 9658.

Street Address: City of Melbourne, Town Hall, corner Collins and Swanston streets Melbourne

Postal Address: City of Melbourne
GPO Box 1603 Melbourne VIC 3000

We're multilingual too

The City of Melbourne provides facilities and services to cater for all people of all backgrounds.

03 9280 0716 廣東話
 03 9280 0717 廣東話
 03 9280 0718 Ελληνικά
 03 9280 0719 Bahasa Indonesia
 03 9280 0720 Italiano
 03 9280 0721 國語
 03 9280 0722 Soomaali
 03 9280 0723 Español
 03 9280 0724 Türkçe
 03 9280 0725 Việt Ngữ
 03 9280 0726 All other languages

Fax 03 9654 4854

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CITY OF MELBOURNE

Walking your dog in the City of Melbourne



Respecting all park users

Owning a dog can be very rewarding but there are responsibilities for both the owner and the City of Melbourne. The City of Melbourne strives to balance the needs of dog owners and non dog owners.

Being a responsible dog owner means ensuring your dog is registered, micro-chipped, trained, socialised, exercised and healthy; and does not represent a nuisance to other members of the community.

Having your dog well trained is important for the safety of your dog, other people and animals. It is important that your dog responds quickly to commands.

Socialising and exercising your dog means getting out and about - and leaving home means you are required to comply with the laws and respect other users in the public place.



Dogs and waste

By law, dog walkers must collect and dispose of their dog's droppings responsibly and always carry an appropriate container such as a plastic bag or pooper scooper (City of Melbourne Activities Local Law 2009).

Dog waste is not only unsightly and smelly, it can also have adverse health and environmental impacts if left on the ground.

As a courtesy in some parks, plastic waste disposal bags are available on specially marked dog waste bins. You can dispose of your dog's droppings in any waste bin.  Please remember you are also required to ensure you always carry your own supply of waste disposal bags.



Tips for respecting other park users

• Don't let your dog run up to other dogs

You should check with other dog owners before letting your dog approach theirs. Although your dog might be friendly, other dogs can be intimidated by an approaching dog.

• Don't let your dog approach people

All park users have the right to feel safe in the park. Some people may be scared of or allergic to dogs (no matter how small and friendly). Never let your dog run up to people.

• Protecting our fauna

Never let your dog chase birds or wildlife. Your dog may inadvertently cause damage by trampling through habitat and disturbing feeding or nesting fauna such as turtles, waterbirds, frogs and ground dwelling birds.

All Australian native animals are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975 and it is an offence to injure or disturb wildlife.

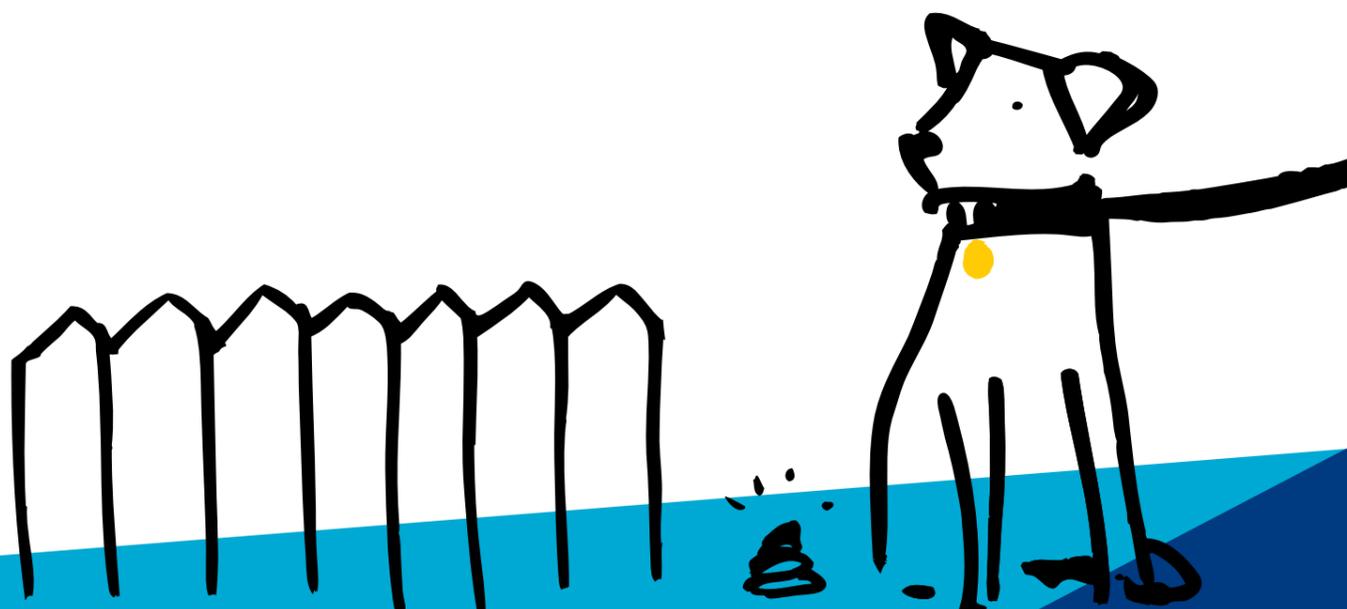
• Control your dog

Always watch your dog and maintain effective control. We encourage the social benefits of meeting friends in parks and open places while your dog plays. However, don't forget to watch your dog while you chat.

• How many can you walk?

While there is no restriction on the number of dogs you can walk at once, if you are walking multiple dogs and can't keep them under effective control, you may be fined.

We recommend only walking two dogs at a time.



Dog on-leash, off-leash and dog-prohibited areas



Streets, parks, gardens and reserves are on-leash unless otherwise signed. Regular patrols by park rangers and animal management officers enforce the on-leash provision.

The City of Melbourne recognises that off-leash areas are beneficial for the health and wellbeing of dogs. There are 11 designated off-leash areas, across eight parks. There is a total of 68 hectares of dog off-leash areas across the city where dogs can socialise and exercise under owner's close supervision.

When your dog is off the leash it must still be under your control. You must keep your dog in sight and at a distance where it is able to hear you and will come when you call.

If you do not have complete control of your dog, it should always be kept on the leash.

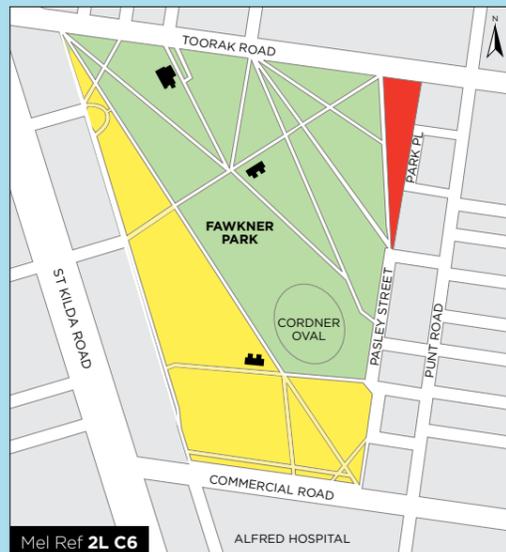
Dogs are prohibited in some areas of parks and gardens, particularly near schools, ponds and wetlands. Dogs must be on a leash near playgrounds.

Fines apply for entering these areas with your dog.

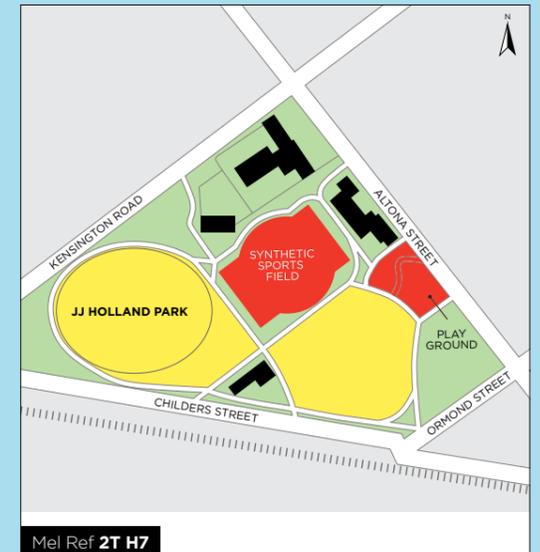
The following maps show the off-leash areas at the time of printing, these locations are subject to change (including occasional trial programs), so always refer to the signs on-site.

- DOG OFF LEASH AREA
- DOG PROHIBITED AREA

FAWKNER PARK



JJ HOLLAND PARK



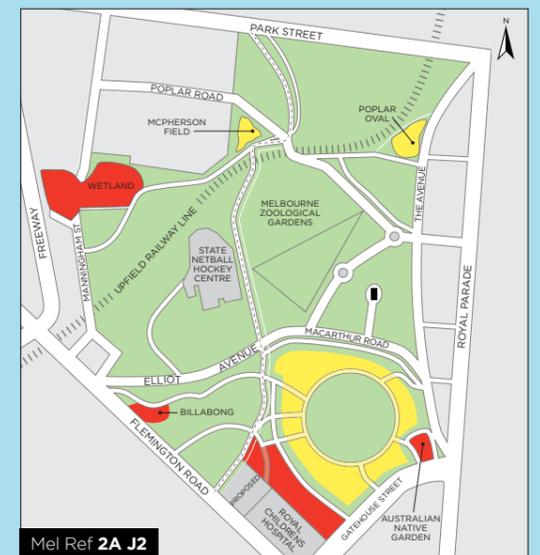
NORTH MELBOURNE RECREATION RESERVE



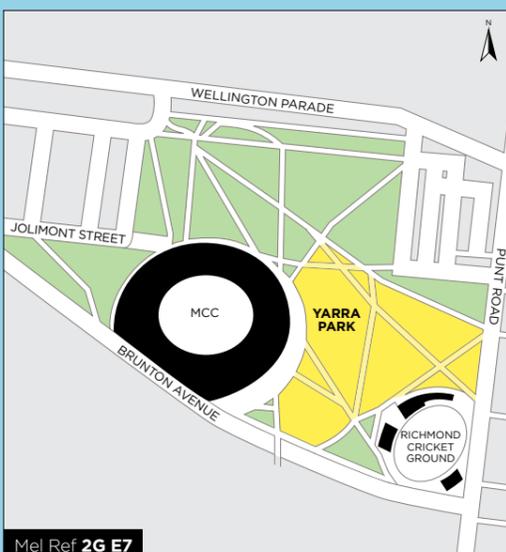
PRINCES PARK



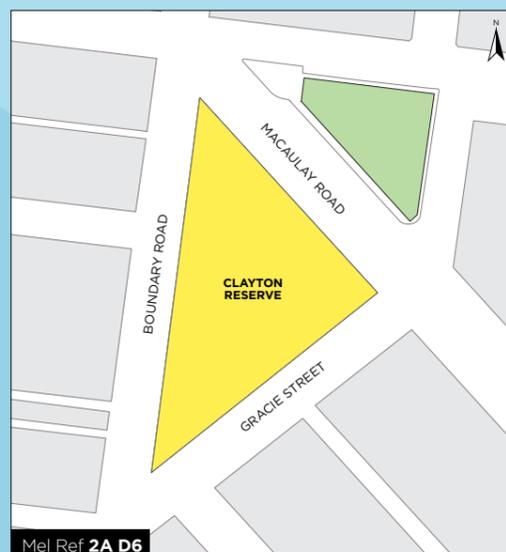
ROYAL PARK



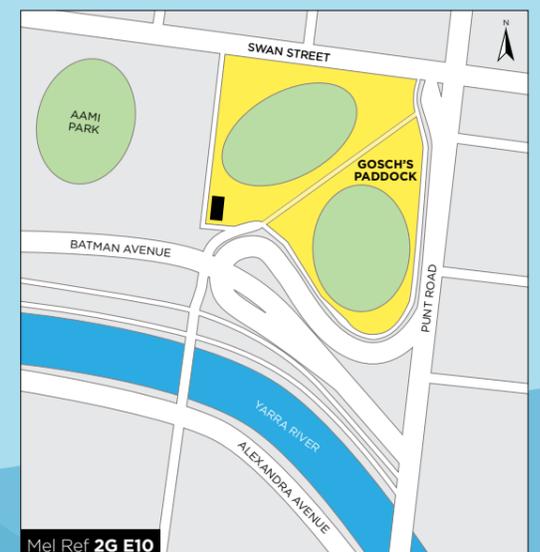
YARRA PARK



CLAYTON RESERVE



GOSCH'S Paddock



Note:
Yarra Park is managed by The Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust (Ph 9657 8888)
Gosch's paddock is managed by The Melbourne Olympic Park Trust (Ph 9286 1600)